

Message Text

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14

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 IO-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

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FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2559

INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

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USMISSION USUN NY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR MX LE

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA SENDS MESSAGE TO LEADERS OF LEBANON

REF: 75 MEXICO 11307 (NOTAL)

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED: DURING A PRESS CONFERENCE JAN 21, MEXICAN FONSEC GARCIA ROBLES RELEASED THE TEXT OF A LETTER FROM PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA TO THE LEADERS "RESPONSIBLE FOR LEBANON" (NOT FURTHER IDENTIFIED) CONTAINING THE FOLLOWING SALIENT POINTS: (A) THE SITUATION IN LEBANON REPRESENTS A THREAT TO PEACE IN THE ENTIRE MIDDLE EAST. (B) ALL STATES, PARTICULARLY LEBANON'S NEIGHBORS, HAVE AN OBLIGATION NOT TO INTERVENE IN THE CIVIL DISTURBANCES. (C) THE PROBLEM, WHICH HAS RESULTED IN THE PRESENCE OF LARGE NUMBERS OF PALESTINIANS IN LEBANON, CANNOT BE SOLVED UNTIL ISRAEL RELINQUISHES THE TERRITORIES IT SEIZED IN THE 1967 WAR. (D) OTHER PREREQUISITES FOR SOLVING THE MIDDLE EAST PROBLEM ARE THE RECOGNITION OF THE SOVEREIGNTY AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF ALL STATES OF THE REGION, INCLUDING ISRAEL, AND ALSO OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE'S RIGHT TO FORM A STATE IN THEIR OWN TERRITORY. (E) "WE HOPE THAT THE CRISIS WHICH

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HAS ARISEN IN LEBANON WILL CONVINCE THE (UN) SECURITY

COUNCIL, WHICH IS CURRENTLY MEETING, OF THE NECESSITY OF
ADOPTING CONSTRUCTIVE AND IMMEDIATE SOLUTIONS WHICH PERMIT
THE EFFECTIVE USE OF THE OTHER PEACEKEEPING MECHANISMS
ALREADY ESTABLISHED." END UNCLASSIFIED.

2. BEGIN LOU AND COMMENT: WHILE THE FOREGOING CONTAINS
NOTHING NEW, IT DOES INDICATE THAT ECHEVERRIA CONTINUES TO
BE INTERESTED IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND TO SEARCH FOR A ROLE
IN SOLVING THE REGION'S PROBLEMS. CERTAINLY ECHEVERRIA DOES
NOT BETRAY ANY HEIGHTENED SYMPATHY TOWARD ISRAEL AND,
NOTWITHSTANDING THE RECENT IMBROGLIO OVER MEXICO'S
VOTE ON ZIONISM AT THE UN AND ECHEVERRIA'S ATTEMPTS TO
ASSURE ISRAELI AND AMERICAN JEWISH LEADERS OF HIS SPECIAL
FRIENDSHIP.
THOMPSON

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To: STATE
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